

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Claims 3, 4, 6-8, 15-17, 19-22, and 27-30 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3, 4, 6-8, 15-17, 19-22, and 27-30 stand allowed.

Double Patenting

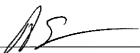
Claims 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,557,765 to Lipner et al. (hereinafter "Lipner"). Claims 11, 12, and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lipner. Claims 9-12 and 25 have been canceled without prejudice, thereby rendering the rejection of claims 9-12 and 25 moot. Claims 9-12 and 25 have been canceled to expedite issuance of the allowed claims in the present application. These cancellations are not intended to be, and are not to be interpreted as, an admission that Applicant agrees with the rejections of claims 9-12 and 25.

1 Conclusion

2 Claims 3, 4, 6-8, 15-17, 19-22, and 27-30 are in condition for allowance.
3 Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject
4 application. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned
5 attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve
6 any such outstanding matter.

7 Respectfully Submitted,

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9 Dated: 6/21/06

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